

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SUVA

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FOLLOWING SENT ACTION WELLINGTON INFO SECSTATE FROM LONDON
JUN 22 REPEATED YOU:

QUOTE

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E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS: INTERNAL SECURITY - KINGDOM OF TONGA

SUBJ: POLICE TRAINING FOR KINGDOM OF TONGA POLICE

OFFICIALS

1. AT THE REQUEST OF THE TONGA HIGH COMMISSIONER IN LONDON, THE EMBASSY'S COUNSELOR FOR ADMINISTRATION TOGETHER WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF FBI AND BNDD MET ON JUNE 20 WITH THE HONORABLE 'AKAU' OLA, TONGA MINISTER OF POLICE. IN THE ABSENCE OF ON- THE- SPOT U. S. REPRESENTATION IN THE KINGDOM OF TONGA, THE MINISTER EXPRESSED THE WISH WHILE IN LONDON TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF SEVERAL TONGA POLICE OFFICIALS BEING SENT TO THE UNITED STATES FOR POLICE TRAINING. FOLLOWING A GENERAL DISCUSSION MINISTER 'AKAU' OLA WAS INCLINED TO THE VIEW THAT THERE WOULD BE CONSIDERABLE MERIT IN SENDING TWO OR THREE OFFICERS TO THE THREE- MONTH BASIC COURSE OFFERED AT THE FBI NATIONAL ACADEMY FOLLOWED PERHAPS BY A SHORT COURSE

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ON DRUG ENFORCEMENT AIONG LINES SET FORTH IN A-9631 OF SEPTEMBER 25, 1972.

2. THE ONLY SPECIFIC QUERY RELATED TO WHETHER FBI COURSE OFFERED INSTRUCTION IN RIFLE SHARP SHOOTING OF THE KIND WHICH WOULD PREPARE THE TRAINEE FOR SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS IN DISABLING OR ELIMINATING PLANE HYJACKERS BY LONG DISTANCE SHARP SHOOTING TACTICS. HIS INTEREST IN CONTROLLING DRUG TRAFFIC WAS CLEARLY OF SECONDARY CONCERN SINCE, IN HIS JUDGMENT, TONGA DID NOT HAVE A SERIOUS DRUG PROBLEM. DRUG ABUSE IS AT A LOW LEVEL, IMPORTATIONS ARE DIFFICULT, AND THE ONLY KNOWN CULTIVATION OF DRUGS (MARIHUANA) STEMMED, HE SAID, FROM THE BRIEF INTRODUCTION OF THE WEED BY AMERICAN PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS. ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT DRUG TRAFFIC COULD INCREASE IN TONGA, AS IT HAS ELSEWHERE, HE REGARDED SOME BRIEF TRAINING IN DRUG BASICS AS A GOOD INVESTMENT FOR FUTURE POLICE EFFORTS.

3. THE DISCUSSION ENDED WITH THE FBI REPRESENTATIVE INDICATING HE WOULD FORWARD MATERIAL ABOUT THE FBI NATIONAL ACADEMY THROUGH THE AMERICAN EMBASSY WELLINGTON WHICH, AT ITS DISCRETION COULD ADD INFORMATION ABOUT BNDD AND AID TRAINING COURSES OUTLINED IN A-6931. FOLLOWING A REVIEW OF THIS DATA, MINISTER 'AKAU' OIA WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH THE EMBASSY AT WELLINGTON THROUGH CORRESPONDENCE, OR A VISIT IF NECESSARY, TO LAY BEFORE THE USG HIS PROPOSAL TO TRAIN TONGAN POLICE OFFICIALS IN MODERN DAY POLICE METHODS.

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